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## MINUTES.

*Stated Meeting, January 5, 1917.*

WILLIAM W. KEEN, M.D., LL.D., President, in the Chair.

Prof. Douglas W. Johnson, of New York, read a paper on "The Strategic Geology of the Balkan Campaign."

The Judges of the Annual Election held on this day between the hours of 2 and 5 in the afternoon, reported that the following named members were elected, according to the laws, regulations and ordinances of the Society, to be the officers for the ensuing year:

### *President.*

William W. Keen.

### *Vice-Presidents.*

William B. Scott,  
Albert A. Michelson,  
George Ellery Hale.

### *Secretaries.*

I. Minis Hays,  
Arthur W. Goodspeed,  
Amos P. Brown,  
Harry F. Keller.

### *Curators.*

Charles L. Doolittle,  
William P. Wilson,  
Leslie W. Miller.

### *Treasurer.*

Henry La Barre Jayne.

*Councillors.*

(To serve for three years.)

Henry Fairfield Osborn,  
Elihu Thomson,  
Samuel M. Vauclain,  
Henry B. Fine.

*Stated Meeting, February 2, 1917.*

WILLIAM W. KEEN, M.D., LL.D., President, in the Chair.

The decease was announced of Prof. Paul Leroy-Beaulieu in December, 1916.

The following papers were read:

"On Some Aspects of Costa Rica and its Natural History,"  
by Professor Philip Calvert. (Introduced by Prof. Henry  
Kraemer.)

"The Geology of Sergipe and Northeastern Bahia, Brail," by  
Mr. Ralph H. Soper. (Communicated by Prof. John C.  
Branner.)

*Stated Meeting, March 2, 1917.*

WILLIAM W. KEEN, M.D., LL.D., President, in the Chair.

A communication was received from the Société Imperiale Russe de Mineralogie, announcing the centenary of its foundation.

Dr. Francis G. Benedict read a paper on "Human Energy and Food Requirements."

*Stated General Meeting, April 12, 13 and 14, 1917.*

*Thursday, April 12.*

*Opening Session—2 o'clock.*

WILLIAM W. KEEN, M.D., LL.D., President, in the Chair.

The decease of the following members was announced:

Prof. Jean Gaston Darboux, at Paris, in February, 1917, æt. 74.

Ambrose E. Lehman, at Philadelphia, on April 5, 1917, æt. 65.

Hon. Richard Olney, at Boston, on April 8, 1917, æt. 82.

The following papers were read:

"The Trial of Animals—A Little Known Chapter of Medieval Jurisprudence," by Hampton L. Carson, LL.D., of Philadelphia.

"Medieval Sermon-Books and Stories and their Study since 1883," by Thomas Frederick Crane, Ph.D., Litt.D., Professor Emeritus of the Romance Languages and Literature, Cornell University.

"Some Recent Acquisitions to the Yale Collection," by Albert T. Clay, LL.D., Professor of Assyriology and Babylonian Literature, Yale University.

"Vision as a Physical Process," by Herbert E. Ives, of Philadelphia. (Introduced by Dr. A. W. Goodspeed.)

"The Diagnostic Method of Training Intelligence: an Education for the Fortunate Few (With a Demonstration)," by Lightner Witmer, Ph.D., Director of the Laboratory of Psychology, University of Pennsylvania.

"Historical Notes on 'The Armament of Igor,'" by J. Dyneley Prince, Ph.D., Professor of Slavonic Languages, Columbia University.

"A New Translation of the Hebrew Bible," by Cyrus Adler, Ph.D., President of Dropsie College for Hebrew and Cognate Learning, Philadelphia.

*Friday, April 13.*

*Executive Session—9.30 o'clock.*

WILLIAM W. KEEN, M.D., LL.D., President, in the Chair.

Dr. Erwin Frink Smith, of Washington, and Dr. Edward Murray East, of Forest Hills, Mass., subscribed the Laws and were admitted into the Society.

The Proceedings of the Officers and Council were submitted.

The following nominees for membership were recommended for election this year.

*Residents of the United States.*

William Frederick Durand, Ph.D., Stanford University, Cal.

Pierre Samuel duPont, Mendenhall, Pa.

Carl H. Eigenmann, Ph.D., Bloomington, Ind.  
 Charles Holmes Herty, Ph.D., New York.  
 Herbert E. Ives, Ph.D., Philadelphia.  
 Waldemar Lindgren, M.E., Ph.D., Sc.D., Cambridge, Mass.  
 Walton Brooks McDaniel, A.B., Ph.D., Philadelphia.  
 Winthrop J. V. Osterhout, A.M., Ph.D., Cambridge, Mass.  
 Harold Pender, Ph.D., Philadelphia.  
 Frederick Hanley Seares, B.S., Pasadena, Cal.  
 George Owen Squier, Ph.D., Washington, D. C.  
 Charles P. Steinmetz, Ph.D., Schenectady, N. Y.  
 Oscar S. Straus, A.M., Litt.D., LL.D., New York City  
 Alonzo Englebert Taylor, M.D., Philadelphia.  
 Edwin Bidwell Wilson, Ph.D., Cambridge, Mass.

*Foreign Residents.*

Archibald Byron Macallum, M.B., Ph.D., D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S.,  
 Toronto.  
 Sir David Prain, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S., Kew.

*Morning Session—9.35 o'clock.*

GEORGE ELLERY HALE, Ph.D., Sc.D., LL.D., F.R.S., Vice-President,  
 in the Chair.

The following papers were read:

- "Lighting in its Relation to the Eye," by Clarence E. Ferree,  
 Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, Bryn Mawr College. (In-  
 troduced by Dr. W. W. Keen.)
- "Factors Influencing the Sex Ratio in the Domestic Fowl," by  
 Raymond Pearl, Ph.D., Biologist, Maine Agricultural Ex-  
 periment Station, Orono, Maine.
- "Significant Results of Scientific Investigations Applied to  
 Fishery Problems," by Hugh M. Smith, M.D., LL.D., Com-  
 missioner of Fisheries, Washington, D. C. (Introduced by  
 Dr. Clarence E. McClung.)
- "A Description of a New Photographic Transit Instrument,"  
 by Frank Schlesinger, Ph.D., Director of the Allegheny  
 Observatory, University of Pittsburgh.

- "Probable Masses of Comets," by Henry Norris Russell, Ph.D., Professor of Astronomy, Princeton University.
- "The Relationship of Stellar Motions to Absolute Magnitudes," by Walter S. Adams, A.M., Sc.D., Assistant Director of Mt. Wilson Solar Observatory, Pasadena, Cal., and G. Strömberg.
- "Nebulae," by V. M. Slipher, Ph.D., Director of the Lowell Observatory, Flagstaff, Arizona. (Introduced by Prof. C. L. Doolittle.)
- "Early Man in America," by Edwin Swift Balch, A.B., of Philadelphia.
- "The Influence of the Admixture of Present Immigrant Races Upon the More Original Stock," by Charles B. Davenport, S.B., Ph.D., Director, Station for Experimental Evolution, Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island.
- "A New Babylonian Account of the Creation of Man," by George A. Barton, Ph.D., LL.D., Professor of Biblical Literature, Bryn Mawr College.

*Afternoon Session—2 o'clock.*

ALBERT A. MICHELSON, Ph.D., Sc.D., LL.D., F.R.S., Vice-President, in the Chair.

Mr. Percy W. Bridgman, of Cambridge, Mass., a recently elected member, subscribed the Laws and was admitted into the Society.

The following papers were read:

- "Crushing of Crystals," by Percy W. Bridgman, Assistant Professor of Physics, Harvard University.
- "Structure of the Spectra of the Phosphorescent Sulphides (Describing Measurements by Drs. H. E. Howe, H. L. Howes and Percy Hodge)," by Edward L. Nichols, Ph.D., D.Sc., LL.D., Professor of Physics, Cornell University.
- "The Corbino Effect in Liquid Mercury," by Edwin Plimpton Adams, Ph.D., Professor of Physics, Princeton University.
- "Spontaneous Generation of Heat in Recently Hardened Steel," by Charles Francis Brush, Ph.D., Sc.D., LL.D., of Cleveland.
- I. "Condensation and Evaporation of Metal Films."

- II. "The Minimum Potential for Excitation of the 'D' Lines of Sodium," by Robert Williams Wood, A.B., LL.D., Professor of Experimental Physics, Johns Hopkins University.
- "Growth and Imbibition," by D. T. MacDougal, Ph.D., LL.D., Director of Department of Botanical Research, Carnegie Institution of Washington, and H. A. Spoehr.
- "The Mechanism of Overgrowth in Plants," by Erwin F. Smith, B.S., Sc.D., of Bureau of Plant Industry, Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.
- "The Behavior of Self-Sterile Plants," by Edward M. East, Ph.D., Professor of Experimental Plant Morphology, Harvard University.
- "Twin Hybrids from *Ænothera lamarckiana* and *franciscana* when crossed with *Ænothera Pycnocarpa*," by George F. Atkinson, Head of the Department of Botany, Cornell University.
- "Naming American Hybrid Oaks," by William Trelease, Sc.D., LL.D., Professor of Botany, University of Illinois, Urbana.
- "The Wild Relatives of our Cultivated Plants and their Possible Utilization," by W. T. Swingle, Ph.D., of U. S. Department of Agriculture. (Introduced by Dr. William P. Wilson.)
- "An Annotated Translation of de Schweinitz's Two Papers on the Rusts of North America," by Joseph C. Arthur, Professor Emeritus of Botany, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, and G. R. Bisby. (Introduced by Prof. John M. Coulter.)
- "Ecology and Physiology of the Red Mangrove," by H. H. Bowman, Fellow in Botany, University of Pennsylvania. (Introduced by Prof. Harshberger.)

*Evening Session—8 o'clock.*

George Ellery Hale, Ph.D., Sc.D., LL.D., F.R.S., Director of the Solar Observatory of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, at Mt. Wilson, California, gave an illustrated lecture on "The Work of the Mt. Wilson Observatory."

*Saturday, April 14.*

*Executive Session—9.30 o'clock.*

WILLIAM W. KEEN, M.D., LL.D., President, in the Chair.

Dr. William Diller Matthew, of New York, Prof. Edwin Plimpton Adams, of Princeton, and Prof. William Morton Wheeler, of Forest Hills, Mass., recently elected members, subscribed the Laws and were admitted into the Society.

Pending nominations for membership were read. Secretary Keller and Dr. L. A. Bauer were appointed Tellers of Election and the Society proceeded to ballot for members.

The Tellers reported that the following nominees had been elected to membership:

*Residents of the United States.*

William Frederick Durand, Ph.D., Stanford University, Cal.

Pierre Samuel duPont, Mendenhall, Pa.

Carl H. Eigenmann, Ph.D., Bloomington, Ind.

Charles Holmes Herty, Ph.D., New York.

Herbert E. Ives, Ph.D., Philadelphia.

Waldemar Lindgren, M.E., Ph.D., Sc.D., Cambridge, Mass.

Walton Brooks McDaniel, A.B., Ph.D., Philadelphia.

Winthrop J. V. Osterhout, A.M., Ph.D., Cambridge, Mass.

Harold Pender, Ph.D., Philadelphia.

Frederick Hanley Seares, B.S., Pasadena, Cal.

George Owen Squier, Ph.D., Washington, D. C.

Charles P. Steinmetz, Ph.D., Schenectady, N. Y.

Oscar S. Straus, A.M., Litt.D., LL.D., New York City.

Alonzo Englebert Taylor, M.D., Philadelphia.

Edwin Bidwell Wilson, Ph.D., Cambridge, Mass.

*Foreign Residents.*

Archibald Byron Macallum, M.B., Ph.D., D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S., Toronto.

Sir David Prain, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S., Kew.



*Morning Session—10 o'clock.*

WILLIAM B. SCOTT, Sc.D., LL.D., Vice-President, in the Chair.

Dr. W. F. Durand, of Leland Stanford University, California, and Mr. Herbert E. Ives, of Philadelphia, newly elected members, subscribed the Laws and were admitted into the Society.

The following papers were read:

"Biochemical Studies of the Pitcher Liquid of *Nepenthes*," by Joseph S. Hepburn, M.S., Ph.D. (Introduced by Prof. Harry F. Keller.)

"The National Research Council and Its Opportunities in the Field of Chemistry," by Marston T. Bogert, Ph.B., LL.D., Professor of Organic Chemistry, Columbia University.

"The South American Indian in His Relation to Geographic Environment," by William Curtis Farabee, A.M., Ph.D., Curator of American Section of Museum, University of Pennsylvania. (Introduced by Mr. Henry G. Bryant.)

"Inter-relations of the Fossil Fuels," by J. J. Stevenson, Ph.D., LL.D., Emeritus Professor of Geology, New York University.

"The Distribution of Land and Water on the Earth," by Harry Fielding Reid, Ph.D., Professor of Dynamic Geology and Geography, Johns Hopkins University.

"Uplifted and Dissected Atolls in Fiji" (Illustrated), by William Morris Davis, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor of Geology, Harvard University.

"The Slides on the Panama Canal," by George W. Goethals, LL.D., Maj.-Gen. U. S. A., Late Chief Engineer, Panama Canal.

"Application of Polarized Light to Study of Ores and Metals," by Frederick E. Wright, Ph.D., of Geophysical Laboratory of Carnegie Institution of Washington.

"Astrapotheria," by William B. Scott, Sc.D., LL.D., Professor of Geology, Princeton University.

"Diatryma, a Gigantic Eocene Bird," by William Diller Matthew, A.M., Ph.D., Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology, American Museum of Natural History, New York. (Intro-

duced by Prof. W. B. Scott.)

"The Waters of Death," by Paul Haupt, Professor of Semitic Philology, Johns Hopkins University.

*Executive Session—1:45 o'clock.*

WILLIAM W. KEEN, M.D., LL.D., President, in the Chair.

The Clerk of the Council certified that the Officers and Council, by unanimous vote, had nominated for membership the Rt. Hon. Arthur Balfour, LL.D., D.C.L., of London, England, and it was ordered, in accordance with the unanimous recommendation of the Officers and Council, that a special election for a foreign member be held at the next Stated Meeting.

*Afternoon Session—2 o'clock.*

WILLIAM W. KEEN, M.D., LL.D., President, in the Chair.

A portrait of I. Minis Hays, M.D., Dean of the Wistar Association, was presented by J. G. Rosengarten, LL.D., on behalf of the Wistar Association, and in the twenty-first year of Dr. Hays's Secretaryship of the Society.

President Keen, on behalf of the Society, accepted the portrait with thanks.

The following papers were read:

Symposium on Aëronautics:

"Dynamical Aspects," by Arthur Gordon Webster, Ph.D., D.Sc., LL.D., Member of Naval Consulting Board.

"Physical Aspects," by Brigadier General George O. Squier, Ph.D., Chief of Signal Corps, U. S. Army. (Introduced by Dr. Keen.)

"Mechanical Aspects," by William Frederick Durand, Ph.D., Chairman of National Advisory Committee for Aëronautics. (Introduced by Dr. Walcott.)

"Aërology in Aid of Aëronautics," by W. R. Blair, Ph.D., assistant, U. S. Weather Bureau.

Discussion:

"Mathematical Aspects," by Edwin Bidwell Wilson, Ph.D., Professor of Mathematics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. (Introduced by Dr. E. W. Brown.)

"Engineering Aspects," by Jerome C. Hunsaker, Eng.D..

Assistant Naval Constructor, U. S. Navy. (Introduced by Dr. Bauer.)

*Stated Meeting, May 4, 1917.*

WILLIAM W. KEEN, M.D., LL.D., President, in the Chair.

Messrs. Walton Brooks McDaniel and Harold Pender, newly elected members, subscribed the Laws and were admitted into the Society.

Letters accepting membership were received from

William Frederick Durand, Ph.D., Stanford University, Cal.

Pierre Samuel duPont, Wilmington, Del.

Carl H. Eigenmann, Ph.D., Bloomington, Ind.

Charles Holmes Herty, Ph.D., New York.

Herbert E. Ives, Ph.D., Philadelphia.

Walton Brooks McDaniel, A.B., Ph.D., Philadelphia.

Winthrop J. V. Osterhout, A.M., Ph.D., Cambridge, Mass.

Harold Pender, Ph.D., Philadelphia.

Frederick Hanley Seares, B.S., Pasadena, Cal.

George Owen Squier, Ph.D., Washington, D.C.

Charles P. Steinmetz, Ph.D., Schenectady, N. Y.

Oscar S. Straus, A.M., Litt.D., LL.D., New York City.

Alonzo Engelbert Taylor, M.D., Philadelphia.

Archibald Byron Macallum, M.B., Ph.D., D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S., Toronto.

The decease was announced of Caspar René Gregory, Ph.D., D.D., LL.D., at Leipzig, on April 9, 1917, æt. 70.

Obituary notices of members deceased were read as follows:

Sir William Ramsay, K.C.B., Sc.D., LL.D., by Prof. Theodore William Richards.

Cleveland Abbe, Ph.D., LL.D., by Prof. Charles F. Marvin.

The following paper was read:

"The Study of Inheritance in *Pisum*," by Orland E. White, of Brooklyn (communicated by Prof. E. M. East.)

Pending nomination for membership No. 1051 was read and, in accordance with a resolution unanimously adopted at the Executive Session held on April 14 last, the Society proceeded to an election.

The tellers reported that the Right Hon. Arthur James Balfour, LL.D., D.C.L., was elected to membership by unanimous vote.

*Stated Meeting, October 5, 1917.*

WILLIAM W. KEEN, M.D., LL.D., President, in the Chair.

Letters accepting membership were read from Sir David Prain, Rt. Hon. Arthur James Balfour and Mr. Waldemar Lindgren.

The decease was announced of

James Mason Crafts, B.S., LL.D., on June 20, 1917, æt. 78.

William Bullock Clark, Ph.D., LL.D., at North Haven, Maine, on July 27, 1917, æt. 57.

Marion D. Learned, Ph.D., Litt.D., at Philadelphia on August 1, 1917, æt. 60.

Patterson DuBois, Esq., at Philadelphia on August 8, 1917, æt. 69.

Adolf von Baeyer, Ph.D., M.D., on August —, 1917, æt. 82.

The following papers were read:

"Principles of the Treatment of Wounds," by Dr. Alexis Carrel, Member of the Rockefeller Institute and Chief Surgeon of Temporary Hospital No. 21, Compiègne, France.

"The Mathematical Study of the Cicatrization of Wounds," by Capt. Lecomte du Noüy, of Temporary Hospital No. 21; Compiègne, France.

"Eighteen New Species of Fishes from Northwestern South America" and

"Description of Sixteen New Species of Pygidiidæ," by Carl H. Eigenmann, Professor of Zoölogy, Indiana University.

*Stated Meeting, November 2, 1917.*

WILLIAM W. KEEN, M.D., LL.D., President, in the Chair.

The decease was announced of Amos P. Brown, B.S., Ph.D., one of the Secretaries of the Society, at Atlantic City, N. J., on October 9, 1917, æt. 53.

The following papers were read:

"Two Years in the Arctic with the Crocker Land Expedition,"

by Edmund O. Hovey, Curator of Geological Department, American Museum of Natural History, New York.

"The Interrelations of the Fossil Fuels. The Jurassic and Triassic Coals," by J. J. Stevenson, Ph.D., LL.D., Professor Emeritus of Geology, New York University.

*Stated Meeting, December 7, 1917.*

WILLIAM W. KEEN, M.D., LL.D., President, in the Chair.

The decease was announced of Franklin Paine Mall, M.A., Sc.D., M.D., LL.D., at Baltimore, on November 17, 1917, æt. 55.

The following papers were read:

"The Archæological Significance of an Ancient Dune," by Dr. Charles C. Abbott, M.D.

"American Sanitation in the Philippines and its Influence on the Orient," by Victor George Heiser, M.D., Sc.D., which was discussed by Doctor Harshberger and Mr. S. Hudson Chapman.

Mr. S. Hudson Chapman, introduced by the President, made some remarks on "Sanitation in Ancient Times as Recorded on Coins issued by the City of Selinus in Sicily, from B.C. 466 to 406."

A communication entitled "Lusitanian Boat Tackle" was presented for the Magellanic Premium, and referred to the Officers and Council for report.

The annual address of the president was read by Dr. Keen.

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Officers and Council were submitted.

Dr. Hays, in connection therewith, made the following statement:

He regretted to be obliged to report to the Society that its Minutes for the year 1780 are found to be imperfect. Close examination tends to the conviction that the record which has been embodied in the Minute Book is a copy, made at some later date, of such loose records as were then available and is written in a different hand from that of the Minutes of 1779 and of 1781. Moreover, the record of the meeting of the 21st of July, 1780, begins "At a meeting of the Society the 21st of July, 1830," which slip of the pen leads

one to the belief that these Minutes must have been transcribed in or after 1830, for this error could scarcely have been made in 1780.

Owing to the lack of any record of certain meetings which, under the Laws, should have been held, and particularly in the absence of any record of the election of members who were believed to have been elected in that year, Dr. Hays requested Miss Kirkpatrick, the Assistant to the Secretaries, to make a search through the files of that period of the *Pennsylvania Packet*, *The Pennsylvania Journal* and *The Pennsylvania Gazette* for any notices which they might contain of the Society's meetings of that year, so as to supply, as far as possible, the deficiencies in the Minutes. This she did with the following interesting results.

In the issue of the *Packet* for September 16, 1779, there appears an advertisement of a meeting of the Society, as follows :

“The American Philosophical Society are to meet at the College to-morrow evening at Seven o'clock agreeable to their Laws.”

In the issue of December 2, 1779, appears the following advertisement of a meeting to be held on December 3 :

“The Members of the American Philosophical Society, are to meet at Six o'clock to-morrow evening agreeable to their rules; and are requested to be punctual in their attendance.”

Further, an advertisement in the *Pennsylvania Journal and Weekly Advertiser* of February 9, 1780, gives notice that

“the Assembly has granted the Members permission to bring in a Bill to incorporate the Society; a draught has been prepared by a Committee appointed for that purpose, and the Society stands adjourned until this evening when it is expected there will be a general attendance of members, at the University, to consider the same.”

The Minutes contain no record of these meetings. It is, of course, possible, although improbable, that no quorum was present and that there were no Minutes to be recorded, but it seems desirable at least to preserve the record that these meetings of September 17 and December 3, 1779, and February 9, 1780, were duly called, and possibly the proceedings at them may be discovered later.

The Minutes of 1779 appear to have been carefully kept, although

written by another hand and all at the same time, which leads to the belief that they, too, were copied at a later date from contemporaneous data and incorporated into the Minute Book.

Miss Kirkpatrick also found in the issue of *The Packet* for Thursday, January 20, the following advertisement:

"The American Philosophical Society are desired to meet at the University next Friday evening, when it is intended to ballot for such persons as have been proposed to be admitted as new members into the Society, agreeable to their Laws."

And in the issue of January 27 appears the following record of this meeting:

PHILADELPHIA, January 27th.

"At a meeting of the American Philosophical Society, the 21st inst. the following Gentlemen were chosen Members, viz.

"His Excellency George Washington, Esq; General and Commander in Chief of the Armies of the United States of North America.

"His Excellency the Chevalier de La Luzerne, Minister Plenipotentiary of France.

"Monsieur Marbois, Secretary of the Embassy of France.

"His Excellency Thomas Jefferson, Esq; Governor of the State of Virginia.

"His Excellency John Jay, Esq; Minister of the United States at the Court of Madrid.

"His Excellency Henry Laurens, Esq; late President of Congress.

"The Honorable John Adams, Esq; late Member of Congress.

"The Honorable William Carmichael, Esq; Secretary of the Embassy to the Court of Madrid.

"Major General Arthur St. Clair.

"Major General Anthony Wayne.

"Col. William Grayson, of the Board of War.

"Col. Hamilton, and Col. John Laurens, Aids du Camp to His Excellency General Washington.

"Baron de Steuben, Inspector General of the American Army.

"Major Vallancey, Second Engineer of Ireland, and Secretary to the Society of Antiquarians in Dublin.

"Timothy Matlack, Esq; Secretary of the Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

"The Rev. John C. Kuntze [Kunze], Rector of the German Lutheran Congregation, Philadelphia.

"The Rev. James Madison, President of William and Mary College, Virginia.

"William Churchill Houston, Esq; Professor of Mathematics of Nassau College, and Delegate in Congress for the State of New Jersey.

"Dr. William Brown, of Virginia.

"Mons. [John] Tournon [Ternaut] Engineer of the Southern Army. And

"Robert Erskine, Esq; Geographer of the United States."

This is a particularly important historical discovery inasmuch as the Society's Minutes show no record of that meeting, or of any meeting in that year prior to February 25, and the announcement, unquestionably, bears the internal evidence of having been furnished to *The Packet* by some one in authority.

Moreover, in its printed "List of Members" of the Society from its foundation, eleven members are entered as having been "elected between April 6, 1779, and January 19, 1781?" which covers the period during which, apparently, the original records of the meetings have been lost, but in this record in the *Packet* we find that twenty-two members were elected on January 21, 1780, of whom nine are not on the Roll, and four who were either previously or subsequently elected are erroneously ascribed to that year, viz.,

Hon. John Jay (who appears to have been again elected to the Society on January 19, 1787).

His Excellency Henry Laurens (who had been previously elected on April 17, 1772).

The Hon. John Adams (who was again elected on January 18, 1793, when Vice President of the United States).

Col. Alexander Hamilton (who was again elected on January 21, 1791, when Secretary of the Treasury).

And the following nine, none of whom appear in the Society's "List":

Hon. William Carmichael.

Major General Arthur St. Clair.

Col. William Grayson.

Col. John Laurens.

Baron de Steuben.

Major Vallancey.



William Churchill Houston.

Dr. William Brown, of Virginia.

Robert Erskine, Esq.

In view of the undoubted accuracy of the *Packet's* list of those elected on January 21, 1780, the question naturally arises whether the names of those elected who do not now appear on the record should not be added to it.

The election a second time of some of the members can readily be accounted for by the unsystematic way in which the records were kept at that date. And to have the exact date upon which were elected all the members in this part of 1780 for which the Minutes are defective certainly is an important addition to our records.

The *Packet's* list does not, however, explain the appearance in the Society's List of the Members elected in 1779 and 1780 of the names of Colonel Charles Pettit and M. Sue, Professor Royal of Anatomy. M. Jean Baptiste Sue's omission is accounted for by the fact that he was not elected until January 21, 1785, as is shown by the Minutes of that date. In examining the Minutes for the election of Col. Pettit, it was found that those of the meeting of January 21, 1785, show two very curious errors. There is loosely placed between the leaves of the Minutes of that meeting a sheet of four pages signed "Extract from the Minutes. Samuel Magaw, one of the Secretaries," and endorsed in his handwriting "New Members of the Philosophical Society, elected January 21, 1785"; the twenty-second name in that list is that of Charles Pettit, Esq., of Philadelphia. This name, in the transcription into the engrossed Minutes, has been accidentally omitted, and this accounts for the doubt in our record as to the date on which Mr. Pettit was elected. As regards the fact of his election there can be no doubt, as he actually subscribed the Laws about that period.

Secondly, in the list of twenty-eight members then elected, the tenth is "Dr. William Griffiths, of Philadelphia," under this entry is written in pencil "this name probably ought to be Dr. Samuel Powel Griffiths, [signed] F.B.," which initials are presumably those of Dr. Franklin Bache, who was Secretary of the Society from 1825 to 1842, when he was elected to the Vice-Presidency. This pencil

note is almost certainly correct because in the manuscript list of members, made in 1792, Dr. Samuel Powel Griffiths is entered as having been elected on January 22, 1785. Then, too, the treasurer's books for 1786 show an entry on January 18: "By Dr. Samuel Griffiths his deposit and subscription £1," and Samuel Powel Griffiths signed the Laws about that time—all of which seems to definitely determine that it was Dr. Samuel Powel Griffiths who was intended to be elected in January, 1785, and who actually became a member in consequence thereof. Moreover, no such person as Dr. William Griffiths is now known to have existed at that time, nor does his name appear upon the rolls of the Society at anytime; nor does Dr. Samuel Powel Griffiths appear by the official Minutes to have been elected on any other date.

I may also incidentally call your attention to the fact that the transcribed Minutes incorrectly give the date of the meeting as January 22, whereas the loose inset heretofore referred to gives it as January 21, which was Friday evening, the regular meeting night of the Society.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Officers and Council the Society ordered

1. That in order to make a more complete record of the Proceedings of the Society the Secretaries be instructed to interleave in the Minutes all notices of calls for meetings which have appeared in the newspapers issued during the time in which the Society's Minutes do not appear to have been original records, with the name and date of the newspapers in which said notices have appeared.

2. That the Minutes of the meeting of January 21, 1780, be accepted as a correct minute of that date and be interleaved in the Minutes as the record of that meeting, with the reference to the *Pennsylvania Packet* of January 27, 1780, as authority for the same.

3. That the roll of members be corrected in accordance with the data thus obtained.

4. That the loose sheet signed "Samuel Magaw one of the Secretaries" be interleaved in the Minute book under its proper date and that Charles Pettit's name be inserted in the roll of members as having been elected on January 21, 1785.